

estimate of the damage caused by Hurricane Harvey is \$125,000,000,000;

Whereas, according to the National Hurricane Center, during Hurricane Harvey—

(1) Texas experienced as much as 60.58 inches of rain;

(2) Louisiana experienced as much as 23.71 inches of rain;

(3) more than 300,000 structures and as many as 500,000 cars flooded in southeastern Texas alone;

(4) an estimated 336,000 customers lost power during Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Louisiana; and

(5) an estimated 40,000 flood survivors were evacuated to, or took refuge in, shelters across Texas or Louisiana;

Whereas, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as a result of Hurricane Harvey—

(1) 41,500 square miles of land mass in Texas were impacted;

(2) more than 100,000 search and rescue missions were conducted across Texas by Federal, State, and local partners;

(3) 12,000,000 cubic yards of storm debris were removed in Texas;

(4) more than 200,000 single-family homes were flooded across the State of Texas, many of which were not in high-risk areas;

(5) 294 shelters were opened in Texas, holding up to 42,399 survivors; and

(6) approximately 82 volunteer organizations with a total of 91,391 volunteers operated in Texas to provide assistance in response to the storm;

Whereas the Gulf Coast of Texas suffered sweeping economic losses due to closures of businesses and ports and interruptions in oil and gas production, trade, and tourism caused by Hurricane Harvey;

Whereas thousands of businesses were damaged due to Hurricane Harvey, which caused some businesses to close for a period of time and other businesses to close indefinitely;

Whereas Hurricane Harvey caused an estimated \$200,000,000 in crop and cattle loss in Texas;

Whereas Hurricane Harvey resulted in the closure of countless schools due to flooding, power outages, and dangerous conditions;

Whereas school closures caused by Hurricane Harvey disrupted the academic school year for thousands of students and forced teachers to relocate classrooms to less favorable learning environments;

Whereas doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel worked expeditiously to provide care and ensure that patients were safe under extreme circumstances;

Whereas volunteer organizations and charities continue to assist survivors of Hurricane Harvey with food, water, and shelter;

Whereas thousands of volunteers and Federal, State, and local government employees from across the United States continue to assist with long-term recovery needs and efforts; and

Whereas significant challenges remain in Texas and Louisiana as those States work to recover, rebuild, and prepare for potential future disasters: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 1-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey, which reached the shores of the United States on August 25, 2017;

(2) expresses condolences to the victims of Hurricane Harvey;

(3) commends the resiliency and courage of the people of Texas and Louisiana;

(4) applauds the work and commitment of Federal, State, and local partners, law enforcement officers, active duty members of the Armed Forces, members of the National Guard and Reserves, first responders, and brave citizens who went into harm's way to save countless lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and who have provided support during the past year; and

(5) reaffirms the commitment of the Senate to stand by the people of Texas and Louisiana and to provide necessary resources as the people of Texas and Louisiana rebuild their communities.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 651—MARKING 1 YEAR SINCE THE LANDFALL OF HURRICANE MARIA IN PUERTO RICO AND THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 651

Whereas, on September 20, 2017, Hurricane Maria passed through the United States Virgin Islands as a category 5 hurricane and made landfall in Puerto Rico as a category 4 hurricane, causing significant devastation across those islands;

Whereas the people of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands have shown an incredible and resilient spirit in rebuilding after their record losses;

Whereas Hurricane Maria contributed to an estimated 2,975 deaths in Puerto Rico;

Whereas the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration estimates that Hurricane Maria caused an estimated \$90,000,000,000 in damage to Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands, making Hurricane Maria the third-costliest hurricane in United States history;

Whereas, as a result of Hurricane Maria—

(1) 3,300,000 residents of Puerto Rico were left without electrical power;

(2) 95 percent of cellular sites were knocked out;

(3) 80 percent of water service was inoperable; and

(4) thousands of Puerto Ricans were displaced from their homes and relocated to the mainland United States;

Whereas significant challenges remain in recovery and rebuilding efforts in Puerto Rico 1 year after Hurricane Maria hit;

Whereas Congress appropriated billions of dollars with the specific purpose of directly helping the citizens of Puerto Rico to rebuild their lives in the aftermath of the hurricane;

Whereas the electrical grid on the island of Puerto Rico remains unreliable and susceptible to intermittent brownouts and blackouts; and

Whereas many Puerto Ricans continue to be displaced without access to permanent housing both on the island of Puerto Rico and on the mainland: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that September 20, 2018, marks 1 year since the landfall of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico;

(2) honors the victims who lost their lives due to Hurricane Maria;

(3) commends the resiliency of those still rebuilding their lives after Hurricane Maria;

(4) recognizes the continued challenges facing Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands in the wake of Hurricane Maria;

(5) commits to ensuring that survivors of Hurricane Maria have adequate resources to continue the recovery process;

(6) extols the work of first responders and citizens who contributed to saving countless lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria; and

(7) reaffirms the commitment of the Senate to support the people of Puerto Rico and

the United States Virgin Islands as they continue to rebuild and recover from the devastation of Hurricane Maria.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 652—REMEMBERING THE 1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDFALL OF HURRICANE IRMA IN FLORIDA

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 652

Whereas, on September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma reached the shores of Florida and caused significant devastation across the State;

Whereas, due to Hurricane Irma, the President issued a major disaster declaration with respect to Florida on September 10, 2017;

Whereas Hurricane Irma contributed to the confirmed deaths of 84 individuals in Florida;

Whereas, as a result of Hurricane Irma—

(1) nearly 13,000,000 people in Florida were left without electrical power;

(2) an estimated 90 percent of the homes in the Florida Keys were damaged or destroyed;

(3) the citrus industry of Florida suffered significant crop and income losses, with some growers experiencing crop losses of 90 percent or more;

(4) the maritime culture of Florida has been severely impacted, including—

(A) the disruption of commercial fishing, trapping, and aquaculture;

(B) the loss of recreational fishing opportunities for residents and tourists;

(C) widespread marine debris limiting safe navigation in waterways and channels; and

(D) reports of more than 850 displaced or sunken vessels; and

(5) the total estimated insurance losses in Florida have exceeded \$10,000,000,000;

Whereas, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the estimate of the damage caused by Hurricane Irma is \$50,000,000,000;

Whereas the Federal Emergency Management Agency has paid out more than \$950,000,000 in flood insurance claims as a result of Hurricane Irma; and

Whereas significant challenges still exist in Florida to recover, rebuild, and prepare for future storms: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 1-year anniversary of the landfall of Hurricane Irma in Florida;

(2) honors victims who lost their lives due to Hurricane Irma;

(3) commends the resiliency of those still rebuilding their lives after Hurricane Irma;

(4) commits to ensuring that survivors of Hurricane Irma have adequate resources to continue the recovery process;

(5) extols the work of Federal, State, and local partners, first responders, and citizens who contributed to saving countless lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma; and

(6) reaffirms the commitment of the Senate to support the people of Florida and provide resources as needed to assist communities striving to return to normalcy after Hurricane Irma.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 48—DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 1551

Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following

concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 48

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1551, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:*

(1) Amend the long title so as to read: "An Act to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes."

(2) In section 1(a), strike "Orrin G. Hatch" and insert "Orrin G. Hatch-Bob Goodlatte".

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator RON WYDEN, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Michael Faulkender, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, dated August 1, 2018.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: General Robert B. Abrams, USA, to be General, and to be Commander, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/United States Forces Korea, and Vice Admiral Craig S. Faller, USN, to be Admiral, and to be Commander, United States Southern Command.

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Bonnie Glick, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator, and Michael T. Harvey, of Texas, and Mark Montgomery, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the United States Agency for International Development.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "The Every Student Succeeds Act: States Leading the Way."

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Health Care in Rural America: Examining Experiences and Costs."

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, August 01, 2018, at 2.30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

#### REDESIGNATING A FACILITY OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 3389 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3389) to redesignate a facility of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3389) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3389

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION OF NASA INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION FACILITY.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Independent Verification and Validation Facility in Fairmont, West Virginia, is hereby redesignated as the "Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility".

#### TRANSIT RAIL INSPECTION PRACTICES ACT OF 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 3139 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3139) to require State safety oversight agencies to conduct safety inspections of public transportation systems that provide rail fixed guideway public transportation and to direct the Secretary of Transportation to develop risk-based inspection guidance for such agencies, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 3139) was passed, as follows:

S. 3139

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Transit Rail Inspection Practices Act of 2018" or the "TRIP Act".

#### SEC. 2. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INSPECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5329 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—  
(A) in paragraph (2)—  
(i) in subparagraph (D), by striking "and" at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and  
(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(F) consideration, where appropriate, of performance-based and risk-based methodologies."; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) PLAN UPDATES.—The Secretary shall update the national public transportation safety plan under paragraph (1) as necessary.";

(2) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the following:

"(11) EFFECTIVENESS OF ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES AND PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall develop and disseminate to State safety oversight agencies the process and methodology that the Secretary will use to monitor the effectiveness of the enforcement authorities and practices of State safety oversight agencies."; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(1) INSPECTIONS.—

"(1) INSPECTION ACCESS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A State safety oversight program shall provide the State safety oversight agency established by the program with the authority and capability to enter the facilities of each rail fixed guideway public transportation system that the State safety oversight agency oversees to inspect infrastructure, equipment, records, personnel, and data, including the data that the rail fixed guideway public transportation agency collects when identifying and evaluating safety risks.